

THE MOVING FINGER

BY MYRA J. BRYANT

On the eve of the opening of the new Negro Branch YWCA in Birmingham, we thought it appropriate to look into the matter of interracial practices within the national organization of the YMCA. (The formal opening is August 15, Ed.)

The National Study Commission on Interracial Practices of the YMCA has just published a report on the advances made in race relations within the Y.

It is significant that the committee made no report on interracial advance in any states south of Maryland. We don't know the reasons for this and have not had time to go into it but we hope that no report is a good report.

The highlight of the report was the statement that all branches of the YMCA are open to colored and white mem-

bers alike in Detroit, New York, Cleveland, Chicago, Philadelphia and San Francisco.

In a breakdown of cities we find such statements as this one, issued by the board of managers of the Chicago Association: "Any qualified person shall be eligible for membership in the YMCA of Chicago without discrimination because of race, color or creed."

In one Cleveland association they have a mixed staff, a white executive secretary, a colored associate executive and a colored committee of management.

In Detroit, Negroes serve on the Metropolitan Board of Directors and on all the Metropolitan committees. The boys camps have been open to all boys for years.

San Francisco has a long history of democratic practices. All branches have been open to all races since 1853 when a Chinese was named to the first Board of Directors. Colored people are admitted to the dormitories in the downtown YM in St. Louis.

The membership in Altoona, Pa., was opened to colored in 1946. Without any previous

planning colored members were accepted as they applied.

In Canton, Ohio, there are mixed colored and white athletic teams in its YMCA leagues and the locker rooms and swimming pools have been open to all since 1949.

Also in 1949 integration was accomplished in the Colorado Springs YM and in the Des Moines, Iowa branches without incident.

Emporia, Kansas has complete integration which they attribute to a program of education with the board and the community, initiated by the general secretary.

Interracial practices became a reality in Flint, Michigan in 1941, when the association began welcoming service men. The Flint YM debated the no discrimination policy in all its branches but no action was taken until 1945 because of the fear of some board members that the Y would be overrun with colored people.

A resolution was finally passed and the secretary reports that there was no rush of colored people into the membership.

The secretary of the Fort Wayne, Indiana, Y reported: "It has been my privilege to direct this YMCA for the past 32 years and in this time we have not discriminated against any race and the matter of race or color has never come up."

Kansas City, Mo., serves colored people in the cafeteria and also conducts a one-day interracial camp.

The secretary of the Paterson N. J. YM says that the interracial policy is operating perfectly; that there have been no incidents, they have lost no members, closed no doors, nor made any fuss about it. He said, "We all saw our duty and did it."

Providence, R. I., began its interracial practices in 1920: Ridgewood, N. J., in 1943 and Syracuse, N. Y., opens its doors to everybody.

Joliet, Ill., began serving colored men and boys in 1945. It does not serve colored women in Central, but it admits colored transients to its dormitory.

The Central building and all branches in Baltimore, Md., except the Druid Hill branch are closed to colored people, but meals are served to interracial groups at special meetings.

The committee suggested eight ways for the YMCA's to improve their interracial

practices, viz: Recruiting colored persons and other minorities for members and participants; recruiting and using colored persons and other minorities as board and committee members; recruiting and using colored and other minorities as club leaders; employing qualified colored and other minorities as staff members—professional and clerical; maintaining a natural atmosphere of fellowship for all in the Y; maintaining present services to colored persons which are established and operated on a geographic basis to serve all persons living in an area; fully utilizing the leadership resources of colored persons and other minorities throughout the YMCA.

Conclusions reached by the National Study Commission on Interracial Practices were that interracial advance is possible in all Associations and the elimination of racial bias is an essential requirement of the Christian way of life.

In getting this over in some communities, the commission found leadership to be the key. It suggested that officers, directors and staff members, especially the executive secretary, should be chosen with care because their attitudes and convictions can make or break the program.

The Birmingham YMCA central building has at times in the past been open for meetings of interracial groups. We have no knowledge of any meals being served to interracial groups even on special occasions.

Community practice to date has done very little about placing colored people on boards of directors in the YWCA or YMCA.

We believe that Birmingham can do whatever any other Southern city can do. As we said in the beginning, we don't know at this writing what is being done in most of the cities of the southern region, but if there is any integration anywhere, we hope that the YM of Birmingham will take notice of it.

New Chicago YMCA Rated Finest In Country



Noted personalities who attended the dedication ceremonies of the new Washington Park YMCA expressed the opinion that it was the finest in the country. The five-story high, fire-proof building cost \$1,400,000. Some of its features are—a cafeteria and private dining room, both air-conditioned; two lounges, one for men and one for women; 278 residence rooms, 24 for married couples, and a banquet hall. Located south of the building is an all-purpose playground. O. O. Morris

is executive director of both the new "Y" and the Wabash Avenue branch. His staff is interracial.

Reading from left to right are A. W. Williams, chairman of the board of directors, who presided; Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Director of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, who delivered the main address, and Mr. Morris.—(ANP)

Citizen Abe Scharff

Dedication of the new YMCA Building on Lauderdale at Linden Sunday afternoon, September 30th will serve to focus attention upon many aspects of the development of the YMCA program during the past fourteen years. Until 1937 the "Y" movement had not been extended to the Negro of Memphis. But for the interest manifested by the then incoming Secretary of the Central YMCA, Earle Whittington Sr. there still may not have been a "Y" program for Negro Memphis for some time to come. Mr. Whittington accepted his present position with the YMCA in Memphis upon condition that he would be given opportunity to launch plans for opening the service to Negroes of this community.

Much of what has occurred since 1937 when the first group of Negro leaders were called by Mr. Whittington to confer with Senior YMCA Secretary, Dr. Channing Tobias of New York as to conditions

a distinct contribution to the program during the past fourteen years. Symbolic of them all, however, is ABE SCHARFF, Memphis business man, for whom the new building was named.

Mr. Scharff's contributions of thousands of dollars not only made the present new, commodious building possible, but enabled the Negro Y. M. C. A. Branch to move from its small quarters on Mississippi Blvd. to its present headquarters on Lauderdale St. He gave outright to the branch the former imposing S. C. Toof home and spent hundreds of dollars helping to improve it. Now the branch is ready to move into one of the finest buildings in the South for Negroes, offering the youth of the race a gymnasium for physical training and an auditorium where a variety of programs for cultural training can be sponsored. There are nineteen separate dormitory quarters...all beautifully and adequately equipped.

Negro Memphis owes a debt of lasting gratitude to Mr. Scharff for his philanthropies and demonstrated interest in going all the way to make this new landmark possible. It owes a debt of lasting thanks to Mr. Whittington and members of its board for following through with plans for construction of the building, even though there had been a discouraging lag in payment of pledges.

It was the interest of men like Mr. Whittington and his associates who called Mr. Scharff's attention to the crying need of the Negro youth for a gym and other facilities to develop their bodies and minds.

Negro Memphis certainly owes a lasting debt of gratitude to their own leaders who balanced the scale of inter-racial relationship through their untiring efforts, sacrifice of time, and money to the end that the "objective of the 'Y' may be realized. That of creating, maintaining and extending through out the community a high standard of christian endeavor." We salute our board of directors officered by such men as Prof. B. T. Hunt, E. P. Nabors, J. T. Chandler, Sr., J. T. Lanier, E. L. Washburn and Dr. J. E. Walker. We shall never forget the years of service rendered by M. W. Bonner, who has left our midst to live in Cleveland...nor those men and women who passed from the scene while at the high tide of labor on behalf of the "Y." Their spirit will be with us Sunday afternoon as we dedicate the Abe Scharff YMCA Building.

Oklahoma to Mix Youth Legislature

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — Colored youth of Oklahoma will be an integral part of the YMCA youth and government program (Hi-Y Model Legislature) when it convenes for the first time in December of this year, according to Matthew G. Carter, associate secretary, Southwest Area Council YMCA with headquarters in Dallas.



The Oklahoma State Youth and Government Committee, headed by former Gov. Roy Turner of Oklahoma, voted unanimously to include colored youth in the program, being organized this year for the first time under the auspices of the Southwest Area Council YMCAs.

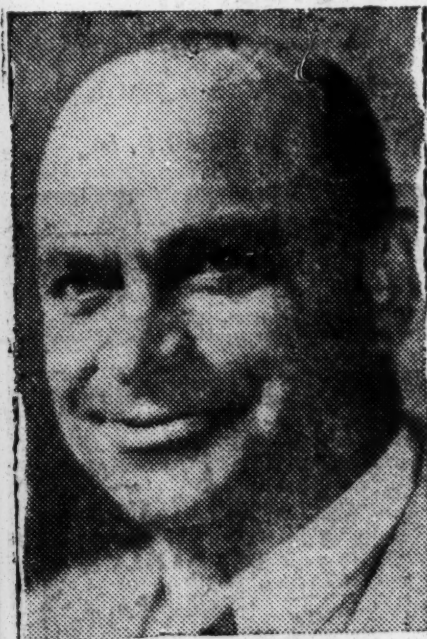
Still Excluded in Texas

The program is four years old in Texas, but colored youth are not a part of the Texas Hi-Y Model Legislature. Ex-Governor Turner's committee will have leading colored YMCA leaders of Oklahoma as members.

"The program," according to Mr. Carter, who spearheaded the movement to include colored youth, "is a sound educational approach to the problem of citizenship participation in democratic government by providing opportunities to high school youth to study public issues, debate policies, write legislation and participate in the process of government through a model legislative program."



\$5,000 IN THE 'KITTY'—An outright gift of \$5,000 was added to the Harlem branch YMCA's \$100,000 financial campaign and the establishment of an annual scholarship award last week. The donor, Morris Morgenstern (left), a philanthropist, real estate banker and head of the Morris Morgenstern Foundation, made the presentation to "Y" official, Rudolph J. Thomas.



CITIZEN ABE SCHARFF

for starting the program here is history...history illuminated with many bright pages that tell of sacrificial services, unselfish contributions, and inspiring demonstration of interracial team work.

The roll call of men and women who pioneered in the "Y" Movement and those who have come on the scene later would read like a classic of old. We could point to scores of persons who have made

Gulf States YMCA Laymen In Conference Here



YMCA laymen from Jackson, Miss., Vicksburg, Miss., Shreveport, Baton Rouge and New Orleans met here at the Dryades Street YMCA last week for the annual Gulf States YMCA Laymen's Conference. Shown here are officers for the ensuing year. Seated, left to right: Charles E. Sherman, Atlanta, Associate Executive, Southern Area Council; Dr. H. H. Huggins, Baton Rouge, president; Dr. R. T. Nelson, Shreveport, 1st vice-president; Cecil W. Carter, New Orleans, secretary; T. J. Hawkins, Shreveport, treasurer; Standing, left to right: M. J. Lylles, Jackson, retiring vice-president, committeeman; J. C. Leary, Shreveport, committeeman; Rev. R. W. Coleman, New Orleans, chaplain; Dr. B. B. Dansby, Jackson, 2nd vice-president; T. R. Williams, New Orleans, assistant secretary; Robert Marshall, Vicksburg, 3rd vice-president, and D. W. Simmons, Vicksburg, committeeman.

Y Board Quits En Masse Over Firing of Official

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—All of the 23 members of the Board of Managers of the Carlton Ave., YMCA resigned last week to protest failure of the General Y Board to promote and integrate Herbert T. Miller to the General Council staff or to find a similar post for him in line with his qualifications.

Mr. Miller, executive secretary of the jim-crow Carlton branch for the past nine years, with special portfolio to do public relations for the entire Brooklyn-Queens Y set-up, was notified of his dismissal last March by Eugene F. Scott, white, general secretary of the Brooklyn-Queens YMCA.

Mr. Scott acted after the Carlton Board made recommendation for Mr. Miller's promotion and called for integration of the Carlton Branch with other branches in the area. His summary dismissal of Mr. Miller was made without consulting his board or members of the Carlton board.

Mr. Miller, who is nationally known as a fund-raiser and a recognized public relations expert, has made a career of the YMCA, which he has served for the past 30 years.

His salary of \$7,500 in the Carlton Branch spot made him one of the highest paid Y men in the country. His salary will continue until Aug. 15, when it is expected that he will announce acceptance of one of the many job offers he has received since his dismissal.

Resignation of the Carlton board members was voted at a meeting on March 19, but was not carried out until last Thursday (June 21), when a committee of mediation reported it could find no spot for Mr. Miller commensurate with his training and ability.

Was Made Goat

In its final report on Mr. Miller's dismissal, the Committee on Mediation declared that the executive secretary had been made the goat in the situation, and that his discharge was not because of his failure to live within the YMCA budget, but because of segregation and discrimination.

"Segregation is the main issue and nothing else. The General Board has recognized the costly nature of segregation in the past and has subsidized the Carlton Branch with a meager pittance to maintain it," the committee reported.

"It is time to abolish segregation in the Brooklyn and Queens YMCA so that this costly un-American system can be abolished for all."

Disregarded Long Service

The committee called Mr. Miller's discharge underhanded and said it was done without regard for his 30 years of service in the YMCA and without prior notice to the Board of Management. The committee added:

"Mr. Miller's coming to Carlton brought dignity to the branch and raised its stature in the YMCA organization and community. Recently for the first time Carlton has been called upon to bear an 'equal' share of the Brooklyn and Queens budget.

"At no time, however, was the Branch told that it was a heinous offense if it did not meet the overall estimates of its budget. The budget has been given as the excuse, but Mr. Scott by his statement, 'Over my dead body would Miller go to Europe this year,' indicates Scott resented Mr. Miller.

Traveled in Europe

Mr. Miller spent six weeks in Europe last year on a pilgrimage. At that time, Scott helped raise money for the trip. About 18 months ago, he also urged leaders to prevail upon Mr. Miller to continue as executive secretary at Carlton.

When Mr. Miller went to Carlton, the amount raised annually was about \$4,300 in cash and subscriptions. He upped this to \$25,000 in cash and no subscriptions. He also raised the salaries of staff members.

Of the 14 branches of the Brooklyn-Queens YMCA, Carlton was the only colored one and Mr. Miller fought for integration.

During his career in the YMCA he has worked at the Christain St. Y in Philadelphia, where he conducted a rehabilitation program and helped raise \$90,000 for a new building. He was there for five years. From 1932-37 he was at the

Centre Ave. Y in Pittsburgh. Prior to that he helped build the half



MR. MILLER

million dollar Indiana Ave. Branch in Toledo, Ohio.

From 1918-23 he was a part-time worker at the Ninth St. Y in Cincinnati, where he became business secretary in 1923 and stayed until 1926 when he became membership secretary for the Harlem Y in New York City. He was there until 1928.

He is married to the former Miss Belle Harper. Board of Managers who quit in protest over Mr. Miller's discharge are:

Charles L. Keliar, lawyer who headed the Committee on Mediation; Probyn Thompson, real estate vice director; Norman W. Robinson, tax assessor of N.Y.; Basil C. Church, Louis J. Warner, real estate broker; William H. Staves, lawyer;

Business Executive

George E. Meares, Cain Young, business executive; Cornelius D. Seon, teacher; Edward J. Robeson, funeral director; Arthur L. Funn, funeral director; Stanley M. Douglas, assistant state's attorney; Marcus H. Drakes, business executive; Allen Jordan, real estate broker; Norman D. Johnson, attorney; Norman B. Johnson, attorney; J. Daniel Diggs, special assistant to the Borough president;

John H. Watkins, building inspector; Richard White, architect; Edward L. Faulcon, Walter K. Taylor, Alfred J. Loring, secretary of Rockefeller Foundation, and Oliver D. Williams, chairman of Board of Lawyers.

The YMCA Moves Forward

No agency for true brotherhood in America can exercise a more lasting influence upon the young men of the country than the Young Men's Christian Association. We were reminded of this upon reading the new report of the National Study Commission on Interracial Practices in the YMCA.

Recently in Cleveland, Ohio, the YMCA held a workshop on interracial practices which explored the work of the commission and reviewed the progress made in the past months. We believe the summary statement made at the workshop is well worth repeating.

"Both the professional leadership in the movement and the board members recognize racial segregation as being a practice out of step with the objectives and philosophy of the YMCA and they are busily engaged in programs to change these practices at the level of the local association."

We are proud that Chicago, which witnessed recently the dedication of the magnificent new Washington Park YMCA, has taken the leadership in promoting the association's goal of an "inclusive brotherhood" in the Y.

The Washington Park Y stands as a symbol of the ever growing interest of our citizens in doing their part to build and expand a movement which inspires the youth of America and fortifies their character for the challenges of the future. We believe the YMCA deserves a big hand for a big job for all America.

LETTER

Lloyd R. Killam, formerly of Atlanta, in charge of all YMCA work in the South, has just written this spot about Nathaniel Hamilton of Birmingham whom he met in Honolulu, Hawaii. He says that the 26-year-old Hamilton has been in the U. S. Navy nine years and now wears the following campaign ribbons: Korean Campaign with two stars; China Service; Philippine Liberation; Navy Occupation Victory; Good conduct and Presidential Citation. He added: "Just after talking with Mr. Hamilton I met Chief E. L. Graham who formerly worked on the VORAD. He is now in full charge of the Navy Beach and Recreation Center at Keehi Lagoon and is doing a fine job."

AND NO STRATEGY USED:

6 Key, 12 Small Cities Operate Mixed YMCA's

NEW YORK — All branches of the YMCA are open to colored and white members alike in Detroit, New York; Cleveland, Chicago, Philadelphia and San Francisco.

This is the highlight of a report on interracial advance in the YMCA by a National Study Commission on Interracial Practices made public recently.

The usual statement passed by the board of managers of the Association follows the Chicago pronouncement, "Any qualified person shall be eligible for membership in the YMCA of Chicago without discrimination because of race, color or creed."

Mixed Staff in Cleveland

One Cleveland association has a white executive secretary, a colored associate executive and a colored committee of management.

In Detroit there is colored representation on the Metropolitan board and on the Metropolitan committee. The boys camps have been open to all boys for years.

San Francisco's practice of opening all branches to all races began in 1853 when a Chinese was named to the first Board of Directors. In St. Louis the dormitories of the downtown MCA are open to colored people.

No Strategy

Altoona, Pa., began accepting colored members in 1946.

The Association reports no strategy was used in effecting it. Colored people were just accepted as other members.

Canton, Ohio, welcomes all colored, all mixed colored and white athletic teams in its leagues, locker rooms and swimming pools and swimming pools and has been doing so since 1949.

The Colorado, Springs YMCA was made interracial two years ago and reports no problems have arisen. Mixed use of the Des Moines, Iowa branch began in 1949 and the secretary reports "we have no difficulties."

Complete Integration

Emporia, Kans., this association began interracial practices in 1946. A program of education with board and community, initiated by the general secretary, has resulted in complete interracial practices.

Flint, Mich., began its interracial practice with the welcoming of service men in 1941.

It debated the no discrimination policy in all its branches but no action was taken until 1945 because of fear of some board members that the Y would be overrun with colored people.

A resolution was finally passed. The secretary reports, "there was no rush of colored people into our membership."

Race Never Came Up

Fort Wayne, Ind., the secretary says, "It has been my privilege to direct this YMCA for the past 32 years and in this time we have not discriminated against any race and the matter of race or color has never come up."

In Kansas City, Mo., only the YMCA cafeteria is open to colored people. This Association also conducts a one-day interracial camp.

Paterson, N.J., secretary states, "We have adopted the interracial idea. It is operating perfectly. We have had no incidents, lost no members, closed no doors, nor made any fuss about it. We all saw our duty and did it."

Providence, R.I., began its interracial practices in 1920; Ridge-wood, N.J., in 1943, and Syracuse, N.Y., says its doors are wide open to everybody.

Takes Transients

Joliet, Ill., began serving colored men and boys in 1945. It does not serve colored women in Central, but it admits colored transients to its dormitory.

In Baltimore, the Central building and all the branches, except the Druid Hill MCA, are closed to colored people. The executive secretary reports that it serves some meals to interracial groups at special meetings.

The Commission reports that interracial advance is possible in all Associations and the elimination of racial bias is an essential requirement of the Christian way of life.

In getting this over in some communities, the commission found leadership to be the key. It suggested that officers, directors and staff members, especially the executive secretary, should be chosen with care because their attitudes and convictions can make or break the program.

Commission Members

Members of the Commission are: Vivian C. McCollom, Paterson, N.J., chairman; C. Alexander Capron, New York; Henry Elliott, Seattle, Wash.; Prather J. Hauser, Detroit; J. Gordon Howard, esterville, Ohio; Campbell C. John-

son, Washington, Lawrence J. MacGregor, Summit, N.J.; Harry B. Price, Norfolk, Va.;

Louis E. Rath; New York; Charles U. Shellenberger, Philadelphia; W. Ellis Stewart, Chicago; J. Carey Taylor, Baltimore, F. C. Willcoxon, Hazlehurst, Miss.; Oliver D. Williams, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Leo B. Marsh, New York, secretary

The committee makes no report on interracial advance in any of the states south of Maryland.

8 Recommendations

The committee report suggested these eight ways for Associations to improve their interracial practices:

1. Recruiting colored persons and other minorities for members and participants.

2. Recruiting and using colored persons and other minorities as board and committee members.

3. Recruiting and using colored and other minorities as club leaders.

4. Employing qualified colored and other minorities as staff members—professional and clerical.

5. Maintaining a natural atmosphere of fellowship for all in the YMCA.

6. Maintaining present services to colored persons which are established and operated on a geographic basis without seemingly extending or perpetuating patterns of segregation.

7. Establishing additional services on a geographic basis to serve all persons living in an area.

8. Fully utilizing the leadership resources of colored persons and other minorities throughout the YMCA.

Civic, Industrial Leaders to Aid Membership Fund Drive of Negro 'Y'

By JOSEPH V. BAKER

The attempt of the Christian Street Branch of the YMCA to widen its service to worthy Negro boys whose parents are unable to provide memberships in that organization for them, will be aided by a number of industrial executives and civic leaders. David N. Phillips, chairman of the 1951 membership campaign, said. The memberships, for worthy boys, Phillips and other branch's officials asserted, will be a major objective of the unit's annual membership drive, scheduled for early October.

The "Christian st. Plan," which has been adopted by other "Y" units throughout the country, includes the purchase of memberships from

contributed funds and their distribution through educational, civic and religious channels. Boys considered worthy by agencies are recommended to the branch for memberships, the total cost of which has reached approximately \$7000 in recent years.

For a number of years the only unit within the "Y" to which a Negro boy could belong without restrictions was the Christian st. organization. Swimming instruction, gymnastic drills, special instruction in handicraft and competitive sports were featured in the program. In addition, the branch announced the recent completion of a health club, which offers highly skilled treatment of physical needs.

In enlisting the aid of industrial leaders, Phillips, who is assistant to the president of the Philadelphia Transportation Co., said that the movement had proved itself worthy in that it had demonstrated that progress could be made in the field of juvenile welfare if "somebody will do more than talk." A member of the branch's board of directors, Phillips has been instrumental in expanding the services of the unit in areas of juvenile activities designed to reduce delinquencies.

The interracial committee which will address itself to the worthy boys membership portion of the unit's general effort, includes Al Paul Lefton, advertising executive; Roger W. Clipp, head of The Inquirer's Station WFIL; Robert Hellyer, of Albert Greenfield and Co.; Russell Hopkins, glass merchant; Clewell S. Sykes, president of Yellow Cab Co. and James M. Toney, director of public relations for RCA Victor.

Raymond Pace Alexander, attorney and head of the organization's International Emblem Club, will be active in the effort, Phillips said, together with E. C. Wright, president of the Citizens and Southern Bank; Dr. John P. Turner, of the Board of

Education; Dr. Leslie Pinckney Hill former president of Cheyney State College, and Milton H. Washington the branch's executive secretary.

The over-all effort will have as its goal the renewal of more than 2000 memberships. The unit is a member of the Community Fund but receives what its officials believe an inadequate amount from that source to meet the needs of the youth it serves. The demand has been greatly expanded, leaders of the branch point out, by the fact that while the unit is located in South Philadelphia, its health facilities serve Negro boys from every section of the city.

Here's New \$75,000 YMCA Building in Charlotte



Here's a view of men's lobby in the Henry Lawrence McCrorey Branch of the YMCA in Charlotte, N.C., which was opened and dedicated last month. Men's lobby was furnished by W. Frank Dowd Jr., in memory of his father.



Standing On Thin Ice

Exterior view of the \$75,000 edifice which houses 12 club rooms, lobbies for men and boys, gym and kitchen. The building was named in honor of the president emeritus of Johnson C. Smith University. E. C. Goodwin, executive secretary of the branch, is shown in above photo, greeting group of boys.

John Forrester-Paton of Scotland, and president of the World Alliance of the YMCA's, said in Atlanta Tuesday that racial, social and religious tensions are the biggest obstacles the YMCA faces as a world-wide organization. And because he is conscious of this fact, he placed himself on record as opposing "immediate and outright lowering of the South's racial bars" in his organization. "It is something we have to do, and we are working toward elimination of the color bar. My organization is quite definite in the opinion that there should be no color bar."

Coming from so highly placed and we take, it- responsible a person, we are disappointed in the certainty of Mr. Forrester Paton concerning what can be done in the South, where he reports, he comes for the first time. What he means by lowering the bars gradually is not immediately plain to us. How long has the YMCA been in existence in the South? Is this the beginning of their plans for integrating Negro members with their white brothers? Is there ever any justification for and organization which calls itself the Young

Men's Christian Association to content itself with anything short of the ideal of Christ who certainly would not be standing around awaiting for some Labor Union to declare the policy which it should declare?

For his information, we might say to Mr. Forrester-Paton school after school in the South is beginning to open its doors to Negro students, which started less than a year ago, after the United States Supreme Court declared it the course to follow. Two private institutions announced only this week elimination of the racial bars in their policies of accepting students in the future. The point we make here is, that if we don't get too certain about some of these age-old traditions and put our ears to the ground, we can get the answer to many of them from the masses. And study after study is proving that the white students and the white citizens generally are not nearly so much in opposition to the lowering of the bars as are the politicians and leaders. Moreover, the Young Men's Christian Association and the Church are the last two institutions which should permit themselves to oppose the end of all segregation and separation of brother from brother. Jesus Christ fought this with all his power.

Dedicate New YMCA Building in Omaha

OMAHA, Neb.—The removal of all bars to membership based upon race and color alone, the recognition of the family and not just the individual as the social unit to be served and the strengthening of world service frontiers, was the three-point program presented last Sunday at the dedication of the new Near Northside Branch YMCA building by Matthew G. Carter. Mr. Carter is the newly appointed executive secretary of the Spring Street branch YMCA Columbus, Ohio.

"It is simply unchristian to refuse the privileges of membership to a man or boy because of color or national origin. If a man or boy is discriminated against because of ignorance, he can study, acquire knowledge and overcome handicap; if he is discriminated against because he is unclean, he can wash, acquire habits of cleanliness and overcome the handicap; if he is discriminated against because he is poor, he can work, acquire wealth and overcome the handicap; but if the discrimination is based on color, he cannot change that. The responsibility for his being non-white is not his but God's. Therefore, it is not an injustice to the man to exclude him from membership on account of color. It is an affront to the God who made him as he is," declared the dedicatory speaker.

"In the present period of world tension and unrest anyone who gives his nights and days to the spiritual undergirding of American youth is struggling on the front line in the battle of the century," asserted the speaker. Attorney Charles F. Davis, president of the Carver Savings and Loan Bank and chairman of the YMCA Committee of Management presided over the dedicatory ceremonies. The YMCA building was constructed at a cost of \$250,000. "We must work to save the family for when the family is adjusted, everything else will fall in its proper place and the YMCA must strengthen its world service frontiers for inherent in this plan is a point four program that can make a distinct contribution to the peace of the world," concluded the speaker, who was formerly associate secretary Southwest Area Council YMCA with headquarters in Dallas, Texas. Other persons who appeared on the program included Fred Buchaltz, president of the Board of Directors Omaha Young Men's Christian Association, Steve Brace, general secretary and John T. Butler, executive secretary. Music was furnished by the Community band and the Bethel AME church choir.

Negro leaders' dream met by 18th Street 'Y' branch

A dream has come true for Negro leaders of Birmingham.

For years, they have had visions of a well-equipped building to help in the physical and character development of Negro youth.

Now, after hard work and cooperative effort, Negroes of Birmingham have such a building in the 18th Street Branch of the Birmingham Y. M. C. A. because we have a facility to meet a need."

They are now busy raising funds to equip the new "Y," which will have its formal opening Oct. 15. *9-3-51*

The 18th Street "Y" Building was at one time the location of the old St. Mark's School at 18th Street and Fourth Avenue, South. It has been remodeled and converted to a Y. M. C. A. building. Cost of the remodeling and equipment will total \$150,000.

NEGROES RAISED funds to finance the project. These funds were matched by the Birmingham Y. M. C. A. board with revenue raised in general expansion fund drive several years ago.

With the exception of architectural work and engineering, done by Miller, Martin & Lewis, the construction was done by Negroes who will also operate the branch "Y" under supervision of the board (as is the case with other branches).

The contractor was L. S. Windham, of T. C. Windham & Son.

WHITE CEMENT has been placed over the exterior of the brick, three-story building. Interior remodeling also has been thorough. A complete transformation has taken place.

This building, which will be headquarters for Y. M. C. A. activity among Negroes throughout Birmingham, houses residence rooms, clubrooms, shower rooms, a gymnasium, a kitchen and dining room.

An apartment in the building will provide quarters for visiting dignitaries.

AMONG THE MANY Negro leaders who have worked toward the fulfillment of the dream is Dr. E. W. Taggart, who is chairman of the board of management.

Numerous Negro organizations are helping to finance the furnishings for the building, along with other civic groups here, such as the Five Points Lions Club which has contributed money for equipping the kitchen.

The branch as a part of the Birmingham Y. M. C. A. is an agency of the Community Chest, which contributes towards its operation.

Roy Niswonger, general secretary of the Birmingham Y. M. C. A., in citing the stimulus the building will create in the expansion of "Y"

people, both youngsters and adults, said: "It will reach more people, both youngsters and adults, because we have a facility to meet a need."



news. Mon. 9-3-51
Here's the dream—This building at 18th Street and Fourth Avenue, South, is the new 18th Street branch of the Birmingham Y. M. C. A. Negro leaders who have worked hard to make the branch building a reality will dedicate it Oct. 15. The site at one time was the location of the old St. Mark's School. The building has been remodeled inside and out. Counting equipment, it will represent an investment of \$150,000.

FOUR NEGROES CHOSEN TO STUDY EFFECTS OF RADIATION

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1 — Four Negroes at three different schools were among those selected by the National Institute of Health, Federal Security Agency, to study the effects of radiation among children of personnel who work with radiation.

Persons selected and their schools are: *Advocate*
Oct. 10-6-51

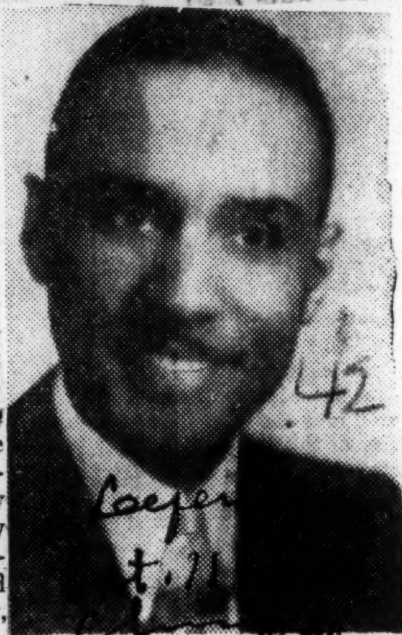
K. A. Harden, Howard University, \$3,594 to study long-term effect of chronic pulmonary disease; Landry E. Burgess, Meharry Medical college, \$4,500 to study the physiological role of three poteries isolated from the egg of the grasshopper; Harold D. West, Meharry Medical college, \$8,100 to study from metabolism using the radioactive iron tracer technique, and Edward G. High, Prairie View, \$5,059 to study kidney vitamin A, its state, factors, affecting it, and its possible physiological function.

The study is aimed at determining effective measures for combating radiation from atomic warfare, and may reveal how protective present measures for workers in radiological laboratories really are.

Results of these studies will be compared with studies taken of children of personnel who do not come in contact with radiation of any type.

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NELSON WOODLEY, head of the chemistry department at Chicago's DuSable high school, has been elected president of the Chicago Chemistry Teachers association, becoming the first Negro to hold this office. Woodley was elected at the organization's first business meeting this season.



GUIDE SAVANNAH'S YMCA—They will direct the affairs of the West-Broad Street YMCA, Savannah, Ga., for this year. Picture shows, standing: the Rev. Gustave Caution, pastor of St. Mathew Church, who installed the new directors; Sidney A. Jones, S. L. White, Raymond Lewis, Dr. J. E. Fonville, the Rev. Ralph Mark Gilbert, Miss Metella Murre, S. Brown, Dr. J. W. Wilson, W. J. Bush, Dr. J. H. Eberhardt and the Rev. E. G. Quarterman. Seated: R. W. Gadsden, J. T. Ellerbee, retiring executive secretary; E. R. Law, recording secretary; John S. Delaware, vice president; Dr. N. H. Collier, president; Dr. H. M. Collier, treasurer; Dr. J. W. Jamerson Jr., retiring president, and Connie Wimberly.—Freeman Photo.

YMCA Challenged To Re-examine Race Relations

Black Dispatch
SAN ANTONIO, Tex. — The Y. M. C. A.'s of the Southwest were challenged last week to re-examine its racial prejudice to see where it can make a significant contribution to better race relations. Delivering his annual report before the 14th annual meeting of the Southwest Area Council YMCA's, an interracial body, Samuel J. Schreiner, the executive secretary, stated "In these days when our concept

of democracy is so seriously challenged in all parts of the world, we are compelled to re-examine our racial prejudices."

"No one would seriously defend many of our discriminatory practices. We have not moved forward in many areas of race relations where we could quickly get complete agreement," said Schreiner.

Speaking before an audience of white and colored YMCA secretaries and laymen from Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas at the Travis Park Methodist church, white, the speaker declared that "as a youth movement dedicated to the concept of Christian democracy we need to give our support to the problems in our communities which will enable young people of all races to develop Christian personality and build a Christian society."

There were visible signs of

racial integration at the YMCA Area Council meeting. A. Maceo Smith, Moorland Branch YMCA layman of Dallas and vice president of the council, presided over one of the business sessions of the council meeting. Meredith Mathews, executive secretary, Community Branch YMCA, Oklahoma City, was elected secretary of the council for 1952.

The council adopted a recommendation that all area-wide Hi-Y activities on a policy making level become racially integrated.

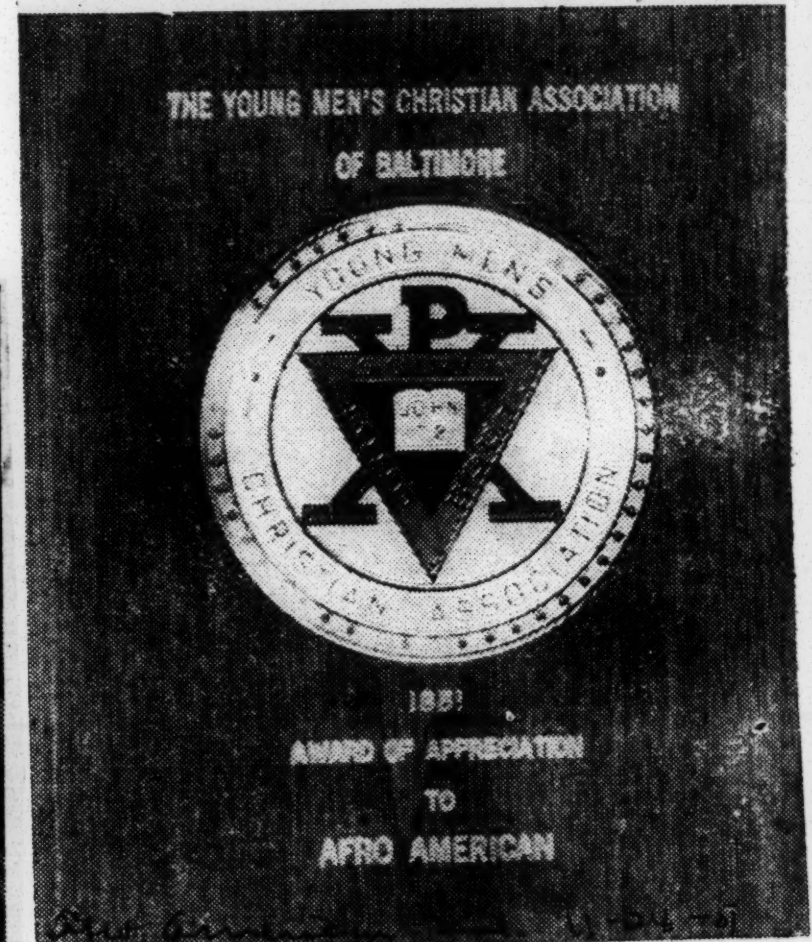
This is the third year that colored YMCA laymen and secretaries have important positions in the Southwest Area Council of the YMCA. The present program of racial integration is under the direction of the Council's Interracial and Intercultural Committee of which W. R. Banks is chairman and Mathew G. Carter is related as staff member. The Intercultural Committee is planning an area-wide workshop in May to work out strategy and techniques for making interracial advancement within local YMCA's.

At Christian Student Meeting



Attending the Intercollegiate Conference on the Christian Student and World Affairs held last week in Lincoln University, Pa., were, left to right, Carolyn Handville, M.J. College for Women; Llewellyn Woolford, Baltimore, secretary of the Lincoln YMCA group; Nancy McKinney, Wilson College; Carl Mansfield, Lincoln; Ronald Kurtz, Rutgers; and Robert James, director of the student Christian movement in Philadelphia.

AFRO Gets YMCA Award



The AFRO-AMERICAN was among the local newspapers, radio and television stations which received community service appreciation plaques from the Baltimore YMCA this week, which is being observed as National YMCA week.

The plaque to the AFRO was accompanied by a letter from J. Theodore Wolfe, YMCA president which reads:

"As we take stock of the many resources which make it possible for the YMCA to exert its influence for good in our community, we want to use National YMCA Week as an occasion to express our special thanks to the friendly enterprises which are of continuous help."

"Therefore, it is a great pleasure for me, on behalf of the officers, Board of Directors, members and staff of the YMCA of Baltimore to confer to you the 'Award of Appreciation' for the splendid help and cooperation of the AFRO-AMERICAN in furthering our purposes in service to youth."